



Jamaica Bay Institute

Keep Our Waterways Clean and Wildlife Tangle-Free: Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program

The Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program (MRRP) at Gateway National Recreation Area's Jamaica Bay Unit is an effort to educate the public on the environmental problems caused by monofilament and other marine debris.



Gateway is home to some of the best fishing locations in New York. Over 8,000 fishing passes are sold yearly.

Fishing line has been a common marine debris collected at Gateway beach clean ups and its effect on wildlife has been reluctantly witnessed time and again. Visitors often call Rangers to help gulls and other seabirds with fishing line wrapped around their



wings or line dangling from their mouth.

The need for a remedy was obvious. With assistance from JBI's staff and financial support, Gateway was able to enact an effective program both in reducing fishing line debris and educating the public about this hazard.

We adopted a model established by Florida's Brevard County MRR Program. With the information provided by Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office, the Midwest Research Institute and Pure

Fishing (parent company of Berkley) we were able to begin to address the problem.


JBH staff, park rangers, and maintenance employees all helped create a MRRP here at Gateway. Collection stations were constructed and informative bulletin boards were designed.



Indoor collection bins were provided by Pure Fishing. Once these pre-paid boxes are filled, they are sent back to Pure Fishing – Berkley for recycling and an empty collection box is returned.

Currently, eight bins have been placed in high use fishing areas around Jamaica Bay. We are happy to report all bins are being appropriately and heavily used!!

**Help Protect Our Environment.
Recycle Your Used Fishing Line.**



Our environment is our most valuable resource. And you can help protect it by disposing of your old fishing line responsibly. Or, better yet, recycle it into other useful products.


The next time you respool, cast your used line into the Berkley Recycling Collection Bin at your favorite tackle shop.

If you can't find a participating dealer in your area, just return your used line directly to: Berkley Recycling Center, 1900 18th Street, Spirit Lake, IA 51360-1099.

Please join in making a commitment to recycling and our environment.

Berkley
ESTABLISHED 1958

Recycle used nylon monofilament fishing line with Berkley.



1900 18th Street, Spirit Lake, IA 51360-1099

The Brevard County program has been such a success that they received a grant to expand the program statewide, conduct workshops, and develop a website www.fishinglinerecycling.com. The website contains all the information you need to start your own program including; guidance, ideas, instructions, and electronic copies of brochures and posters.

If you have any questions about Gateway's MRRP contact Kathleen Williams at 718-318-4349 or K_J_Williams@nps.gov.